

Mont. ! 17-41-11

John H. Diggs' House
Poolesville Vicinity
Private

c, 1879

This small, one story log house with two rooms (one down and one up) was fairly representative of the houses built by Black settlers immediately after purchase of their land after emancipation. Though its walls were not covered with weatherboards, its appearance was kept attractive by whitewashing the walls inside and out every year.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

John Henry Diggs' House (Site)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North Side of Sugarland Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Poolesville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☒ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES, RESTRICTED☐ YES, UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Charles Diggs

Forest

STREET & NUMBER

1701 D St., SE

Telephone #: Not Listed

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

20003

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Courthouse-land records

Liber #: 322

Folio #: 404

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M:17-41-11

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☒ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Tilghman Lee says that the Diggs' dwelling was a log house with one room down and one up. The facade contained one door and a window with double hung sash with 6 x6 panes. Like the other log and frame houses in Sugarland, this house did not have wooden shutters like the log houses contemporary to it in southern Maryland. All houses had glass windows. Its bare log walls were whitewashed inside and out. It was warmed by a wood stove.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M: 17-41-11

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1879

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was fairly representative of log houses of slaves and of the first homes built by Black settlers after they purchased land. Like white settlers elsewhere, they built log dwellings, then added frame rooms to them or completely replaced them with frame houses. This house remained for many years until it was demolished, probably in the second quarter of the 20th century. Though the house was not covered with weatherboards, its appearance was kept attractive by whitewashing each year, according to Tilghman Lee.

John Henry Diggs, Jr. was listed in 1900 U.S. census for Montgomery County as a servant of Emily D. Allnutt. He was born in 1885 and was the son of John Henry Diggs, Sr. the owner of this house, according to Lee. Lee recalls that Diggs, Sr. had another son named Charles.

No descendants are known to remain, nor have family photographs been located.

Deed EBP/ 23/110 shows that John Henry Diggs purchased this tract from Jane Pleasants in 1879. It consisted of 4 acres.

According to Tilghman Lee, John and Melia Diggs' children were Arthur, Calip, and John.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1900 U.S. Census

Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., EBP 23/110; 322/404.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George W. McDaniel, Surveyor Wesley Stubbs, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

STREET & NUMBER

July 1978

TELEPHONE

Box 87

CITY OR TOWN

926-4510

STATE

Dickerson

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: ~~Maryland Historical Trust~~
~~The Shaw House, 21 State Circle~~
~~Annapolis, Maryland 21401~~
~~(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
 Box 87, Stronghold
 Dickerson, Md. 20753
 (301) 926-4510

M: 17-41-11

HISTORY CONTINUED

SITE: Sam Johnson site

4) GRANTOR: Jeremiah and Susan K. Williams
GRANTEE: ~~Basil Pleasants~~ ~~Not the wife of husband of Jane~~
DATE: Nov. 2, 1847 ACREAGE: 13 1/2
recorded: Dec. 7, 1847
MISC.: 407.5 acres
L/F STS 3/238

GRANTOR: Thomas Berry, Trus.
GRANTEE: Jeremiah Williams.
DATE: May 24, 1831 ACREAGE:
recorded: Nov. 15, 1831
MISC.:
4F BS 4/501
subdivision of the Estate of the Late Thomas O.
Williams sold by Thomas Berry trustee.

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

Jane Pleasants

M:17-41-11

JOHN HENRY DIGGS

SITE: ~~Sam Johnson~~ site: P-326

LOCATION:

OWNER'S NAME: Charles Diggs

ADDRESS: 1701 D. St., S.E. Washington, D.C.

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

PROPERTY MAP: C551 P 326

ACREAGE: 4.00

L/F: 322/404

HISTORY:

1) GRANTOR: ~~Charles Diggs~~ John Henry and Mary J. Diggs
and Cleveland Clipper, wife Susan
GRANTEE: Charles Diggs

DATE: January 29, 1913 ACREAGE: 4
recorded: Nov. 8, 1922
MISC.:

2) GRANTOR: Jane Pleasants
GRANTEE: John Henry Diggs

DATE: 1879 ACREAGE: 4
Recorded: 1880 - Oct. 5
MISC.:

L/F EBP 23/110

Note "... in the division of the real
estate of Thomas Owen Williams "

3) GRANTOR: Basil B. and Phebe R. Pleasants
GRANTEE: Jane Pleasants

DATE: 1864 - March 14 ACREAGE: 19¹³
Recorded: 1865 - March 9
MISC.:

L/F EBP 2/16

" description of land ... to Joseph Dawson for about
7 aces, and containing 193 aces. exclusive of said 7 aces in fee ^{simple}

L/F BS 4/501
Grantee: Jeremiah Williams
Grantor: Thomas Berry
Date: May 24, 1831
Recorded: Nov. 15, 1831
Acrage

M:17-41-11

Note:

Thomas Berry was appointed a trustee to sell the real estate of Thomas O. Williams,

Thomas Berry in pursuance of his said appointment did offer to public auction to the highest bidder the estate or tract of land ... at such sale the said Jeremiah Williams was the highest bidder

tract: 1550 ac.

L/F

Grantee
1995 Thomas O. Williams

Have not
been checked

New Exchange in Mont. county
montgomery county

✓ land also in Maryland

1812 Mont. county Maryland

Grantor

David Walter F-6 219

Thomas Plater F-6 252

William Dennis G 410

Ann Cash G 435

Thomas S. Lee H 406

Harriet Williams Exrx N290

Benjamin Young O 226

Edward O Williams Q 193

Nothing in index for Thomas O. Williams after 1812
(as grantee)

Grantee Thomas O. Williams

Grantor Edward O. Williams

date July 29 1812

recorded Dec. 1812

Mill lands tract 164 ac.

The said Mill lands
taken up by
Edward Dawson

Note: Makes mention of
Edward Dawson

John Henry Diggs 1900 : sm ~~John H. Diggs~~ John H. Diggs?
Jan. 1885 - M: 17-41-11

AGE/DOB: 15 T. Lu says John Henry Diggs had
2 sons, T. H. D. Jr. &

WIFE:

Charles.

CHILDREN:

OCCUPATION:

note: Enumerated w/ Emily D

AllnuH as a servant

vol. 36 ED 53
sheet 5 line 11 R

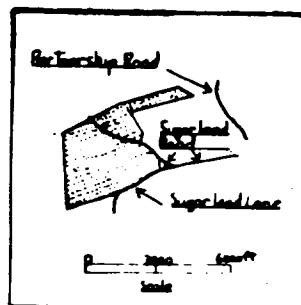
could not find
in 1900 census

M. 17-41-H

Note

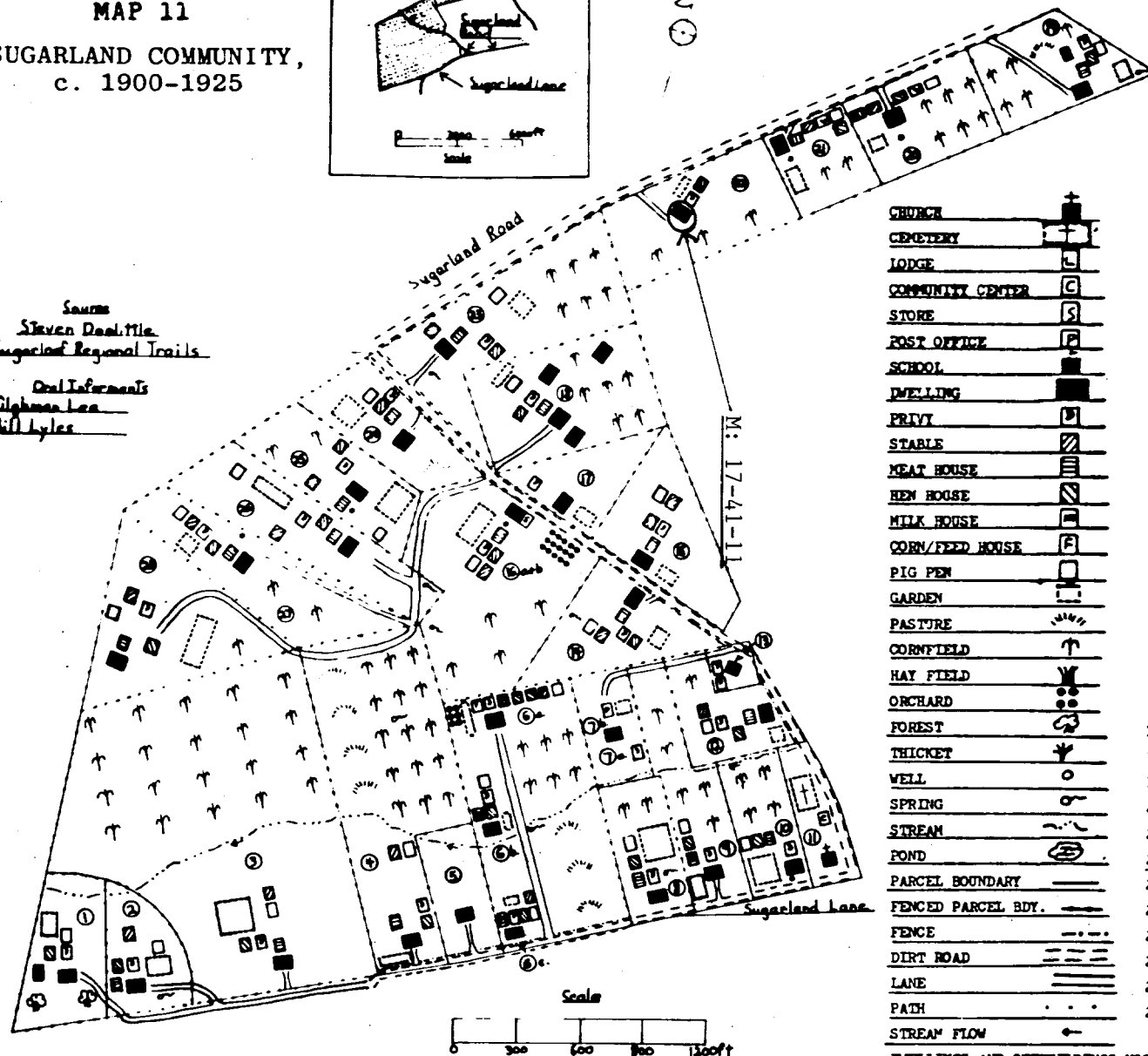
John Allnutt
white farmer

MAP 11
SUGARLAND COMMUNITY,
c. 1900-1925



Source
Steven Deal, M.E.
Sugarland Regional Trails

Oral Informants
Tilghman Lee
Bill Hyles

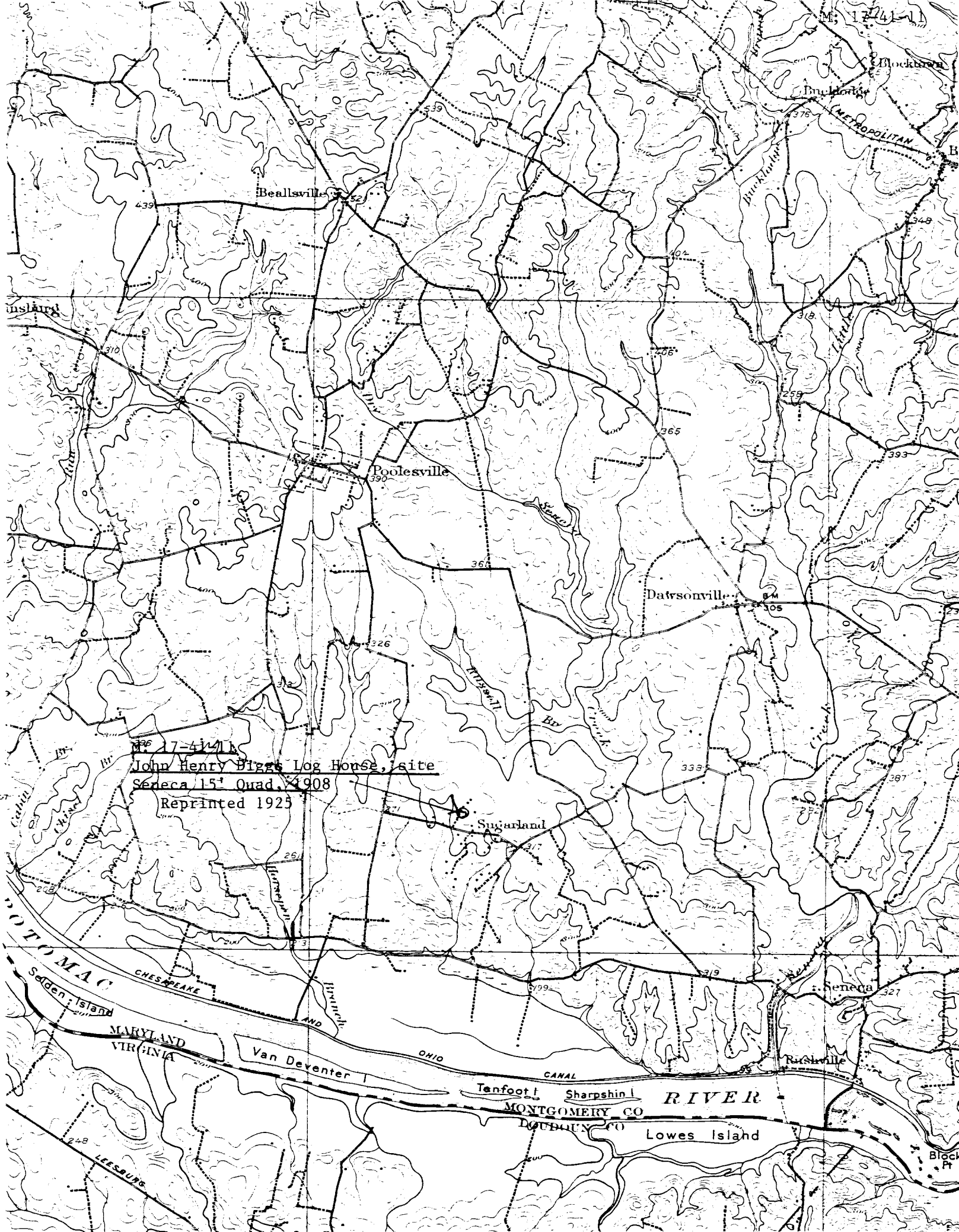


Key

CHURCH	[Symbol]
CEMETERY	[Symbol]
LODGE	[Symbol]
COMMUNITY CENTER	[Symbol]
STORE	[Symbol]
POST OFFICE	[Symbol]
SCHOOL	[Symbol]
DWELLING	[Symbol]
PRIVY	[Symbol]
STABLE	[Symbol]
MEAT HOUSE	[Symbol]
HEN HOUSE	[Symbol]
MILK HOUSE	[Symbol]
CORN/FEED HOUSE	[Symbol]
PIG PEN	[Symbol]
GARDEN	[Symbol]
PASTURE	[Symbol]
CORNFIELD	[Symbol]
HAY FIELD	[Symbol]
ORCHARD	[Symbol]
FOREST	[Symbol]
THICKET	[Symbol]
WELL	[Symbol]
SPRING	[Symbol]
STREAM	[Symbol]
POND	[Symbol]
PARCEL BOUNDARY	[Symbol]
FENCED PARCEL BDT.	[Symbol]
FENCE	[Symbol]
DIRT ROAD	[Symbol]
LANE	[Symbol]
PATH	[Symbol]
STREAM FLOW	[Symbol]

1. JAMES BECKWITH ESTD.	3.00 AC.
2. TILGHMAN BECKWITH ESTD.	4.00 AC.
3. JOHN ADAMS ESTD.	18.00 AC.
4. LEWIS GARRETT ESTD.	14.00 AC.
5. PETER JACKSON ESTD.	3.00 AC.
6a. PATRICK HERRON ESTD.	17.00 AC.
b. LUKE HERRON ESTD.	
c. ROBERT HERRON ESTD.	
7a. NATHAN JOHNSON ESTD.	3.00 AC.
b. POST OFFICE	
8. JOHN HIGGINS ESTD.	4.00 AC.
9. JOE CURTIS ESTD.	6.00 AC.
10. EASIL DORSEY ESTD.	4.00 AC.
11. ST. PAUL'S M.E. CHURCH	1.00 AC.
12. HORACE JACKSON ESTD.	2.00 AC.
13. SUGARLAND SCHOOL	1.00 AC.
14. SAM BEANDER ESTD.	6.00 AC.
15. THOMAS NICHOLS ESTD.	10.00 AC.
16a. BENJAMIN SPARROUGH ESTD.	14.75 AC.
b. SUGARLAND STORE	
17. CHARLES JACKSON ESTD.	4.50 AC.
18. LUKE LYNCH & FAMILY ESTD.	10.00 AC.
19. WILLIAM TAYLOR ESTD.	3.00 AC.
20. LLOYD COATES ESTD.	4.00 AC.
21. SAMUEL JOHNSON ESTD.	4.00 AC.
22. JOHN DIGGS ESTD.	4.00 AC.
23. JOHN BRANISON ESTD.	11.00 AC.
24. RAF BRANISON ESTD.	6.00 AC.
25. PHILLIP JOHNSON ESTD.	6.00 AC.
26. ISAAC BELL ESTD.	10.00 AC.
27. SAMUEL LEE ESTD.	5.00 AC.
28. LEVI HALL ESTD.	10.00 AC.

DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE
HSTD. = HOMESTEAD PROP. = PROPERTY



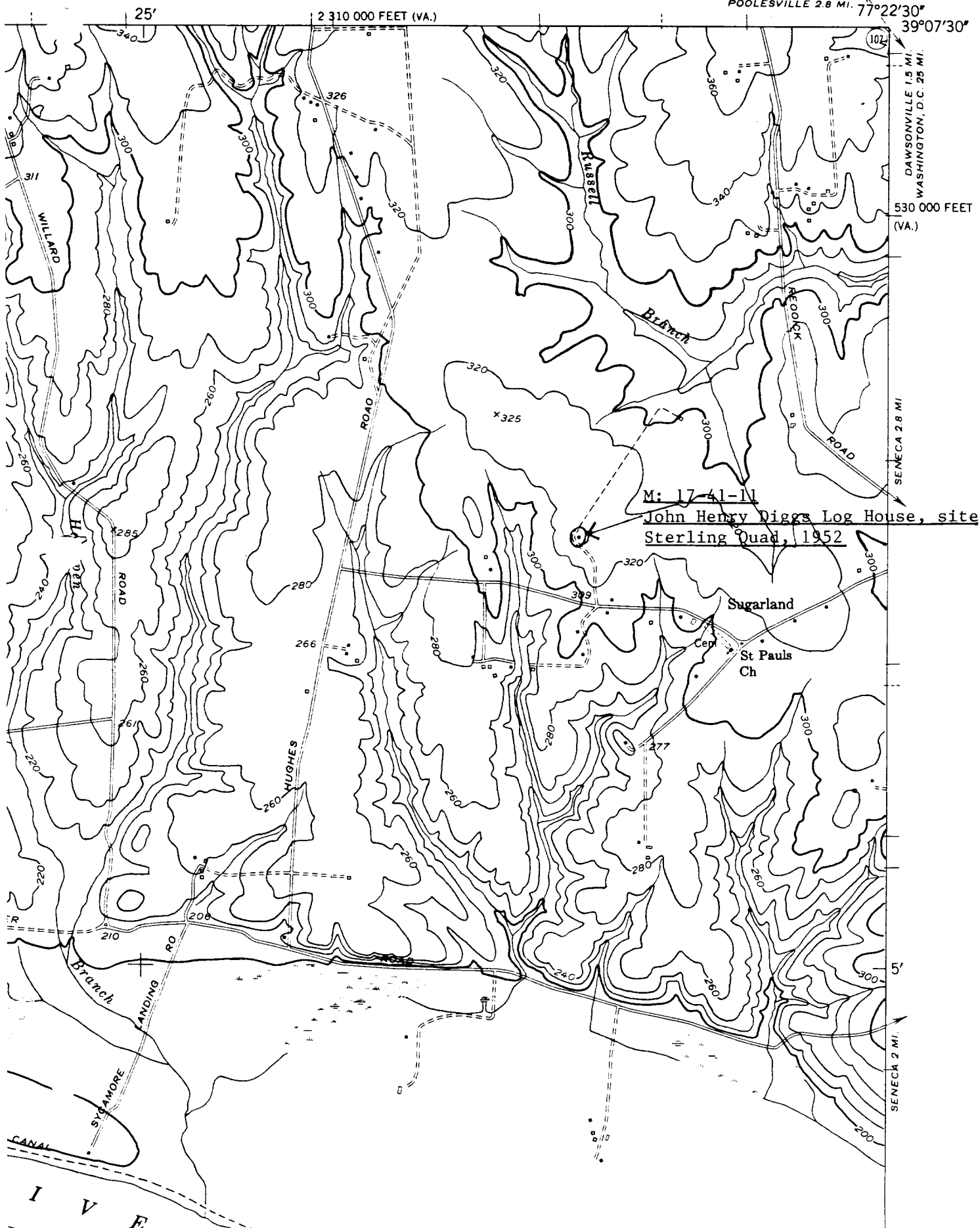
Division of Archeology
 Maryland Geological Survey
 Johns Hopkins University
 Baltimore, Maryland 21218

STERLING QUADRANGLE
 VIRGINIA-MARYLAND
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SW/4 SENECA 15' QUADRANGLE

POOLESVILLE 2.8 MI.

(GERMANTOWN)



STERLING QUADRANGLE
VIRGINIA-MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 SENECA 15' QUADRANGLE

M: 17-41-11

5562 III NE
GERMANTOWN

291 25' 2 310 000 FEET (VA.)

292

293

POOLESVILLE 3 MI 77°22'30"

39°07'30"

DAWSONVILLE 1.5 MI
WASHINGTON D.C. 25 MI

530 000 FEET
(VA.)

4332

4331

4330

4329

5'

SENECA 19 MI

